

**Mansfield Commission on Aging Agenda**  
**Monday, Sept 13, 2004 2:30 PM – Senior Center**

**PRESENT:** S. Thomas (Chair), C. Phillips, E. Norris, N. Stevens, M. Thatcher, B. Acebo, P. Hope (staff), P. Secker, D. Mercier, C. McMillan, K. Grunwald (staff)

**REGRETS:** K. Doeg,

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 2:34 PM by S.Thomas.
- II. **Appointment of Recording Secretary:** K. Grunwald agreed to take minutes for the meeting,
- III. Acceptance of **Minutes** of the July 12, 2004 meeting: The minutes were accepted as written.
- IV. **Correspondence** - Chair and Staff: S. Thomas circulated information that she received from the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare on proposed changes to Medicare and Social Security.  
Phil Secker shared two articles from the Willimantic Chronicle: one on the start of the new bike path on Rt. 44, which will affect residents of Jensen's, and one on unlicensed homecare agencies.
- V. **Optional Reports** on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations
  - A. Health Care Services  
Wellness Center and Wellness Program – P. Hope reported for Jean Kenny, who is currently out on medical leave. Monthly reports for June and August were distributed. Part of Jean's client activity in August involved assessing the needs of client's who participate in the Town's "At Risk" program.  
Staff are still in the process of evaluating how to best respond to the health and wellness needs of seniors. M. Thatcher raised a question about the potential shortage of flu shots; P. Hope stated that the VNA has not identified any concerns at this time.
  - B. Social, Recreational and Educational  
Senior Center – P. Hope distributed her report for the month of August. She noted that the Senior Center was closed for one week in the month for cleaning and repairs. P. Hope pointed out that while participation in the Windham Hospital meal program is down, the TVCCA meal participation has increased. As a result, the Windham Hospital meal will only be available on Wednesday, and the menu can be varied. S. Thomas raised a question about how many people are receiving home-delivered meals: 10-12 daily.  
P. Hope also reported that we are working with the CT Association for Community Transportation to explore the development of a volunteer driver program.

Senior Center Assoc. – John Brubacher was not present; no report. K. Grunwald reminded the Commissioners that the Association will be sponsoring a “Festive Fall Bazaar” on October 8 & 9 at the Senior Center.

C. Housing

Assisted Living Project: representatives from the Coalition On Assisted Living visited Summerville to explore possible interest in development of a similar facility in Mansfield. S. Thomas and M. Thatcher visited Creamery Brook. C. Phillips brought in information from the Leyland Alliance presentation on the Mansfield Downtown Partnership’s proposed plan. K. Grunwald reported that the Alliance would be willing to do a presentation to the Commission. Juniper Hill, Jensen’s Park, Other: no report.

D. Related Town and Regional Organizations

Com. on Physically and Sensorily Impaired - Mary Thatcher is no longer a member of this committee.

Senior Resources of Eastern CT: no report.

Town Plan of Conservation and Development – Carol Phillips: no report.

Town Community Center: no report.

**VI Old Business**

Status of Nominations - Nora Stevens: C. Phillips, K. Doeg and S. Thomas have agreed to be reappointed; now waiting for a formal appointment by the Committee On Committees. The Commission voted unanimously to support these appointments.

Process for up-dating **the Long Range Plan (2004-2014)** – K.

Grunwald distributed information on “Senior Friendly Communities”, which identified eight dimensions of a “Senior Friendly” community: Physical Environment, Health, Economy, Technology, Safety/Security, Social/Cultural Involvement, Services/Support, and Resource Planning/Stewardship. These areas are then evaluated on the following dimensions: Existence, Adequacy, Accessibility, Efficiency/Duplication, Equity, and Effectiveness/Quality. It was agreed that we will use this framework as a template, and will review our existing Long Range Plan in this context. At the next meeting the Commission agreed to divide up these areas among members and devise questions for the survey that will provide us with data for the long range plan.

**VII New Business: none**

**VIII Adjournment**

(next meeting set for Tuesday, **Oct 12** , 2004 at 2:30, Senior Center)

Meeting was adjourned at 4:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Grunwald, Director of Social Services